



Annual Report

ON THE

Health of the Borough of Fowey.

1925.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

NATURAL & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area—(in Acres) 2032·341.

Population—Census, 1921, ~2168
Estimated, 1925,—1982

Physical feature of Borough—hilly, Subsoil—Lower Devonian Slate.

Inhabitants consist roughly of one-third private residents; one-third engaged in trade; one-third working class. The latter are principally engaged in loading China Clay on the Jetties, which is not an unhealthy occupation.

Number of inhabited houses, 1921—475.

Number of families or separate occupiers, 1921—523.

Rateable Value, 1924—£11,941.

Sum represented by a penny rate, 1924—£49 15s.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births—Male 12, Female 19, including one illegitimate.

Birth-rate—15·65 per thousand.

Deaths—Male 14, Female 13.

Death-rate—13·6 per thousand. There were two deaths of infants, giving an infantile death-rate of 64·5.

There were two deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis, one from non-Respiratory Tuberculosis. Two each from Cancer, Heart Disease and Nephritis. Three from Cerebral Diseases. None from notifiable diseases other than Tuberculosis. None from Infantile Diarrhæa.

The amount of poor relief in the Borough is small and there is little real poverty.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

There is a Cottage Hospital with six beds, four male, two female, and a private ward which can be and has been used for maternity cases.

An Ambulance is kept at the Jetties for accident cases.

There is a part time Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector who is also Borough Surveyor.

There is a District Nurse, largely supported by an endowment, who also acts as Health Visitor. She is under the control of a local committee but supplied by the County Authority, and is a qualified Maternity Nurse.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

During the last five years a large amount of work has been done in the area to provide for the increased housing.

WATER.—Two new reservoirs have been built. The supply is constant and the water as checked by several analyses fairly satisfactory. The system is rather complicated, requiring pumping. Source of supply is the watershed of Penventinue, entirely within the Borough.

There are still a few houses who draw their supply from wells, but the number is diminishing. Present excess of water goes to supply shipping.

SEWERAGE.—An antirely new drainage has been constructed to supply the rapidly developing upper town. This is carried to the mouth of the harbour at Readymoney and is now in working order. It has been necessary to permit some of the new houses to employ temporary cess-pits but it is hoped to connect these up very shortly. Rapidity of building has gone ahead of the Borough's capacity of drainage, the difficulties of which in this area have been very great. It is intended by the adoption of a Town-Planning Scheme to obviate this for the future.

A few houses in the rural portion of the Borough will have to remain as they always have been, unconnected with the drainage system, the cost of draining them being prohibitive.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Approximate number of Water Closets	..	680
Water Closets connected to Cess-pits	..	20
Earth Closets	40
Septic Tanks	2

SCAVENGING.

Houses are provided with movable ash bins and the order for proper coverings is now being enforced. The Scavenging is satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

There have been 67 inspections with six informal and one statutory notice. Improvement is reported. No complaints have been received from tenants.

No offensive trades are carried on in the Borough. Fowey being off the main road there are few tramps and no common lodging houses. Some private houses are let as lodgings to the better class visitor. There are also some Hotels. All these are satisfactory.

The Schools have been inspected and are satisfactory. Complaints were made to the County Authority with regard to the Infant School room and the subject is still under consideration.

HOUSING.

This subject has been given much consideration by the Council during the last five years. While not much fault could be found with the newer part of the town, the older part which dates from the 18th, 17th and even 16th century is not as regards lighting and internal construction ideal. While there has been no extensive overcrowding there has been inconvenience. No house in actual habitation is unfit and many have been recently purchased by their tenants whose interest it is to keep them in good repair. Quite rightly the Council considered that the only way to remedy this was by offering a better type. These could only be built on the hills and now that water and drainage have been provided, houses have been going up rapidly. There are now 24 new houses facing the main road to Par, seven on the Tavern Barn site and 24 being rapidly completed on the Council's own site. More are in contemplation. These are of suitable type and should abolish any shortage.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1925.

Number of new houses during the year—

- (a) Total (completed) 30. (b) (i) 24 still building. (ii.) 30
1. Unfit dwelling houses—
Inspections: (1) 67. (2) 67. (3) 1. (4) Except the above one there were no houses found not reasonably fit.
2. Small defects were found in 6 cases, rendered fit on informal notice.
3. Action under Statutory Powers—
(a) (1) None. (2) None. (3) One.
(b) None. (c) None.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The only important epidemic in the last five years was one of Measles in 1923 which attacked an unusual number of adults. There were no fatal cases. In addition there have been the usual seasonal visitations of Influenza which in a few cases became Pneumonic. The Borough is now nearly free from Tuberculosis. There was in 1925 a small epidemic of Mumps, but this year was singularly free from any notifiable infectious disease.

In this area Measles is always transmitted through school attendance during the catarrhal stage. Houses in which are only children too young for school escape.

In all cases where death has occurred through Tuberculosis the houses have been carefully disinfected.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE DURING THE YEAR 1925.

There were no notifications during this year.

INSPECTION, &c. OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY—As the result of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, all the farms selling milk were inspected before registration and considerable alterations made in several. Five licenses for sale of milk were granted but none under special designations.

MEAT—The Sanitary Inspector was appointed Meat Inspector under Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. There is only one private slaughter house. Notices are sent and inspection made at the time of slaughter which is usually a fixed date. There are three shops in good condition which supply all the meat used.

Bakehouses have been inspected.

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